



Meelis Milder is the Chairman of the Board of Baltika Group. He has been involved with Baltika for over 30 years, having started within the production management and serving as the Chairman of the Board since 1991. Mr. Milder is also a board member of the Estonian Chamber of Commerce and Industry. During Baltika's 90-year history, the company has grown from manufacturing mens' raincoats into a leading fashion brand house in the Baltics, where five internationally successful fashion brands are created and developed today – Monton, Mosaic, Baltman, Bastion and Ivo Nikkolo. Since 2005, Baltika has been a sponsor of the Estonian Olympic Committee and has had the honor to design the uniforms for Estonian Olympic Team. Baltika Group as a company acknowledges the importance of wider social responsibility, follows sustainability in its actions and considers the environmental effects.



Kaupo Heinma. Since January 2014 until November 2018 he was the Head of the Environmental Management Department at the Estonian Ministry of the Environment where he currently serves as the deputy secretary general of environmental management, environmental technology and foreign affairs. In this position he is covering environmental management, international policy and waste policy areas, issues related to the SDGs, environmental impact assessment, strategic environmental assessment and risk assessment, circular economy, eco-innovation, chemicals management issues, environmental charges, environmental monitoring, voluntary environmental schemes (ecolabels, environmental management systems etc.) and waste management. Mr. Heinma is also a Member of the Science Policy Committee. In addition, he is the founding member of the Estonian Association for Environmental Impact Assessment (KeMÜ), and also a member of the Implementation Committee under the Convention on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context (Espoo Convention) and its Protocol on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Protocol on SEA), since 2014. Kaupo Heinma has a degree in Environmental Management from Tallinn University.



Maija Kale. As a values' driven individual, Maija finds it of utmost importance that sustainability is not only a theoretical concept but reflects dilemmas and choices to be implemented at everyday level. Having a degree in business and a background in international development, she has always worked in that dynamic and challenging space between the public, corporate and civic sectors. After obtaining an international Master's degree in Social Sciences in 2007, she has actively participated in project management in interdisciplinary international projects on business sustainability and issues of societal education. Her network is vast, and stems from business leaders to NGO and public sector representatives. Currently she is working as an Advisor to the Nordic Council of Ministers in Latvia. The areas of responsibility for sustainability and digitalisation include such areas as smart cities, energy security, 5G and digitalisation, gender balance in tech and energy sectors, food value chains, bioeconomy and circular economy.



Lauri Tammiste. Since 2016 he is working as the director of Stockholm Environment Institute Tallinn Centre. He has extensive and interdisciplinary experience in energy, energy efficiency and innovation policy design, analysis and program management. During his 7 years at the Estonian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Communications he was in various positions responsible for shaping the national renewable energy plan, national R&D and innovation strategy, designing and launching new support programs for energy efficiency and renewable energy and R&D, coordinating and carrying out ex-ante and ex-post policy evaluations, international cooperation and representing Estonia in various European Commission, OECD, IEA and Nordic-Baltic working groups. Lauri Tammiste has graduated from the University of Tartu, Estonia (Public Administration).



Emile Bruls from the waste and circular economy team of Rijkswaterstaat has been working on circular and sustainable textiles since 2012. The Dutch focus is on working towards a circular economy for textiles and finding high-end solutions for recycling. Rijkswaterstaat is an agency of the Dutch ministry of Infrastructure, Water Management and the Environment and is one of the participants in the European Clothing Action Plan (ECAP). Within the European Clothing Action Plan Emile Bruls worked on improving the collection of textiles, circular procurement of workwear and fibre-to-fibre recycling.



David Watson is working as the Senior Consultant of PlanMiljø. He has over 20 years of experience in environmental analysis in the private and public sectors. During the last twelve years David Watson has focused on analysing trends and policy in sustainable production and consumption, resource efficiency, circular economy and waste management. He is a Nordic and European expert on sustainability within textiles. Most of his focus is on mapping the circular economy in the textile value chain and how this can be further encouraged and accelerated. He has carried out a wide range of projects for public and private organisations alike and has published many reports, article and guidance in the field.



Pirjo Heikkilä. Senior Scientist, Dr. Pirjo Heikkilä has altogether almost 20 years' experience in fibre and textile research, first at Tampere University of Technology and, after few post-doc years, since 2011 at VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland Ltd. Her research activities have included wide range of topics such as textile and technical fibres; electrospinning and nanofibres; nonwoven materials and production with foam technology; material modifications; and surface treatment and coating technologies. During the last years she has focused on textile recycling and circular economy, and coordinated national

(Finnish) projects in this field: 'The Relooping Fashion Initiative' (www.reloopingfashion.org), and 'Telaketju - Textile collecting and utilization chain' (www.telaketju.fi).



Kerli Kant Hvass (PhD) has over 15 years of experience working with sustainability, circular economy and textiles from academia, the private, public and non-profit sectors in Estonia, Denmark and the U.S. She holds an industrial PhD degree from Copenhagen Business School and her expertise lies within strategy and business model innovation for sustainability and circular economy, circular value chains, re-commerce business models and social entrepreneurship. She has worked as a circular economy developer at BESTSELLER and JACK & JONES. She currently develops circular economy at the Re-Use Center Estonia and works as an independent consultant advising companies, organizations and different initiatives on sustainability and circular economy.



Dace Akule is an expert in sustainable fashion and founder of start-up AKULE that tests ideas for increased knowledge and sustainable textile solutions. In the capacity of individual consultant, she also works with public institutions, non-governmental organisations, businesses and leaders in Latvia and abroad on various issues of sustainable development, including public policy, communication and fundraising. Until 2016, Dace was the Director of the leading public policy think tank in Latvia, the Centre for Public Policy PROVIDUS, where she also used to work as project manager and policy analyst focusing on specific aspects of sustainable development (EU good governance, migration and integration). Before joining PROVIDUS in 2006, she worked as a journalist - specialised in socio-political issues and European integration - for several international media outlets, including the Latvian service of the Radio Free Europe/ Radio Liberty. She has a Master degree in Advanced International Studies from the Diplomatic Academy of Vienna and the Paul H.Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, the Johns Hopkins University (Bologna center).



Juha Mattsson. He is an experienced entrepreneur and growth business executive with 10+ years of experience from founder and CEO positions in growth companies. Dr. Juha Mattsson is currently the CEO of Emmy Clothing Company, a leading Nordic platform buying and selling pre-owned premium clothing. Prior to his management positions, Mattsson also has 10+ years of academic experience from Aalto University, Helsinki, and Stanford University, California, with focus on strategy, marketing, and sales management.



Philip Boumans. He has been the CEO for 40 years of the Dutch family-owned company, Wolkat. Wolkat is a consortium of innovative recycling companies that manages the entire textile recycling chain from collection to end production and the renewal of materials. Philip's passion lies in creating value from disposed textiles and it has been his dream and vision for decades. He envisions a world where we only speak of raw materials, not waste.



Wickie Meier Engström. Director, Partner and Co-founder of Really a company producing new circular and engineered materials based on recycled textiles. Her background is in design, fashion and innovation. She has worked with sustainable and organisational development in different contexts for decades, all from The Danish Ministry for Business to UN, Unicef Supply Division, including being an associated professor at the master program Sustainability in Fashion at Esmod University Berlin.



Harald Cavalli-Björkman. He is the Head of Communications at re:newcell. Mr. Cavalli-Björkman has a background as a consultant within marketing, PR and sustainability communications. Harald Cavalli-Björkman has worked with some of the world's largest B2B and B2C brands. He holds a B.Sc. in Economics from Uppsala University.



Mari-Helene Kaber has been the Project and Information Manager at Humana Estonia since 2007. She has been implementing Global Citizenship Education, environmental awareness raising and development cooperation projects from 2007. Additionally, as Humana being a member organisation to the Estonian Roundtable for Development Cooperation and a board member, Mari-Helene has 10 years of experience in development cooperation advocacy on a national and European level. She has a sociology degree from Tallinn University.